

Variable Trial and Error

Use at the beginning of the school year.

Find an expression in the right column to match each one in the left column and write the matching letters in the blanks below to spell a quote by Ambrose Bierce, an influential early 20th-century American writer .

1.	$3x \cdot 8x + 1y$	BUTL	$3xy + 8y$
2.	$3x \cdot 4y \cdot 2x$	EISN	$24x^2y$
3.	$(3x)^2 (2 + 4)y^2$	DONT	$6\frac{3}{4}$
4.	$(\frac{3}{2})x + 2x + (\frac{6}{4})x$	GSWE	$(\frac{1}{2})(8y + 10x)$
5.	$9x + 8x + 8y - 9y$	KNOW	$3\frac{3}{4}$
6.	$\frac{2^2x^2}{x^4}$	NGNE	$5x$
7.	$\frac{7}{8} - \frac{9}{8} + (\frac{3}{4})^2$	FOLD	$20xy$
8.	$(3x + 8)y$	OTSO	$4y^2 + 2xy$
9.	$2y(x + 2y)$	OTHI	$6(3xy)^2$
10.	$(3y + y) (x + 4x)$	THIN	$1\frac{13}{72}$
11.	$\frac{9}{8} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{9}$	ERTH	$(\frac{2}{x})^2$
12.	$(3y + y) + (x + 4x)$	ESUN	$\frac{5}{16}$
13.	$9(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6})$	WUND	$17x - y$
14.	$\frac{13}{2} + \frac{7}{2} - (\frac{5}{2})^2$	THER	$24x^2 + y$

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

8	9	10	11	12	13	14

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